

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/080,562

Examiner

Dah-Wei D. Yuan

Applicant(s)

KAMO ET AL.

Art Unit

1745

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/21/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 25-34.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 11162005,01052006, 02212006
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

**FUEL CELL POWER GENERATION EQUIPMENT
AND A DEVICE USING THE SAME**

Examiner: Yuan

S.N. 10/080,562

Art Unit: 1745

April 27, 2006

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on February 21, 2006 has been entered. Claims 1-24 were cancelled. Claims 25-34 were added.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S.C. code not included in this action can be found in the prior Office Action issued on June 21, 2005.

Claim Rejections

3. The claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Yonetsu et al. and Hockaday et al. on claims 14-24 are withdrawn because these claims have been canceled.

Reasons for Allowance

4. Claims 25-34 are allowed. The invention of independent claim 25 recites a fuel cell power generation system using liquid as a fuel comprising one or more air vent holes on a wall surface of a fuel container, multiple fuel cell mounted on the wall surface of the fuel container,

mounting parts of the fuel container on which the fuel cell are mounted have diffusion holes, between the outer wall surface of the mounting part and the anode of the fuel cell, an interconnector for electrically connecting the anode with an adjacent fuel cell is provided and the interconnector has a diffusion hole. The closest prior arts of record, Yonetsu et al. and Hockaday et al., do not teach or suggest the features such as mounting parts of the fuel container, diffusion holes and an interconnector having a diffusion hole as stated in the claim. The invention of independent claim 26 recites a fuel cell power generation system using liquid as a fuel comprising one or more air vent holes on a wall surface of a fuel container, multiple fuel cell mounted on the wall surface of the fuel container, mounting parts of the fuel container on which the fuel cell are mounted have diffusion holes, between the outer wall surface of the mounting part and the anode of the fuel cell, an interconnector for electrically connecting the anode with an adjacent fuel cell is provided, the interconnector has a diffusion hole and the cathode current collector has a diffusion hole. The closest prior arts of record, Yonetsu et al. and Hockaday et al., do not teach or suggest the features such as mounting parts of the fuel container, diffusion holes, interconnector having a diffusion hole and cathode current collector having a diffusion hole as stated in the claim.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dah-Wei D. Yuan whose telephone number is (571) 272-1295. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00-5:00).

Art Unit: 1745

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick J. Ryan, can be reached on (571) 272-1292. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dah-Wei D. Yuan
April 27, 2006



DAH-WEI YUAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER